

*ORIG/ Center For National
Security Studies
(orig under Michigan State)*

December 23, 1976

Mr. Robert Stark
Executive Assistant
Associated Students of Michigan
State University
334 Student Services
East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Dear Mr. Stark,

I am responding to your letter of November 19

We are aware that there has been a mass mailing from the "Center for National Security Studies" and Mr. John Marks to academic institutions and student newspapers throughout the country, with various allegations concerning this Agency and universities.

As for your inquiry about the credibility of the "Center for National Security Studies" and whether its literature has a serious purpose, it would not be appropriate for this Agency to comment on such matters. The attitudes of the "Center for National Security Studies" and its associates on foreign intelligence activities of the United States are reflected by their publications, such as their "First Principles" series and others. I am enclosing some clippings from newspapers which reflect some of Mr. Marks's views about the Agency; also included is a recent newspaper syndicated column which notes the efforts of the "Center for National Security Studies" to "dissolve lines of collaboration between universities and the CIA."

We believe the central issue in the relationship of the Central Intelligence Agency with universities and colleges is indeed the matter of academic freedom: the freedom of a professor or student to communicate and cooperate with his own government. The threat to good government, to national security, and to academic freedom would seem to emanate not from some attempt by this Agency to impose itself on the organization or activities of an academic institution, but from enforced separation of scholars from the U.S. Government and of the U.S. Government from the fruits of scholarship.

The Central Intelligence Agency has several kinds of relationships with scholars and scholarly institutions. These include negotiated contracts for scientific research and development; contracts for social science research on the many matters that affect U.S. foreign policy; paid and unpaid consultations between scholars and CIA research analysts; contacts with individuals who have traveled abroad and who wish to voluntarily share their impressions with the U.S. Government; and other contacts, voluntary on the part of individuals, to help this Agency provide the policymakers of our government with information and assessments on foreign developments.

We seek conscious and voluntary cooperation from people who can help the foreign policy processes of the United States. These relationships are consistent with academic freedom and with principles of democratic government.

Thank you for your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Andrew T. Falkiewicz
Assistant to the Director
of Central Intelligence

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Enclosures